

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/815,665

Examiner

Natalia Figueroa

Applicant(s)

LEE, CHANG-HYEON

Art Unit

2651

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment (20 October 2005).
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 50,52-55 and 57-64.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 50, 52-55 and 57-64 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

RE claims 50 and 55, the prior art of record, and in particular Shimura et al (USPN 5,966,279), fails to teach or suggest an apparatus and associated method for detecting abnormalities comprising a determining unit for determining an abnormality in the recorded signal in dependence upon a result obtained when comparing the signal reproduced from the medium with a reference signal wherein said determining unit compares a signal level of an envelope of the signal reproduced from the medium with a reference signal level.

RE claim 52, the prior art of record, and in particular Shimura et al (USPN 5,966,279), fails to teach or suggest an apparatus for detecting abnormalities comprising a determining unit for determining an abnormality in the recorded signal in dependence upon the signal reproduced from the medium; said plurality of heads comprising: a first head formed on a head drum with said first head having a first azimuth angle; a second head formed on the head drum with said second head having a second azimuth angle different from said first azimuth angle; and a third head formed on the head drum and disposed between said first and second heads.

RE claim 53, the prior art of record, and in particular Shimura et al (USPN 5,966,279), fails to teach or suggest an apparatus for detecting abnormalities comprising a determining unit for determining an abnormality in the recorded signal in dependence upon the signal reproduced from the medium; said plurality of heads comprising; a first head having a first azimuth angle for recording first information, selected from the data, onto the medium; a second head having a

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second azimuth angle different from said first azimuth angle for recording second information, selected from the data, onto the medium; said first and second heads being respectively formed at separate locations of said head drum; and a third head for reproducing third information from the medium, said third information corresponding to information selected from the first information and the second information, said third head being formed on an outer surface of said head drum and between said first and second heads.

RE claim 57, the prior art of record, and in particular Shimura et al (USPN 5,966,279), fails to teach or suggest an apparatus for detecting abnormalities comprising a third head formed on the head drum and disposed between said first and second heads; said plurality of heads recording digital data onto a medium and reproducing data from the medium, said heads reproducing a digital signal from the medium while the signal is being recorded onto the medium by at least one of said heads; and a determining unit for determining an abnormality in the recorded signal in dependence upon the digital signal reproduced from the medium.

RE claim 59, the prior art of record, and in particular Shimura et al (USPN 5,966,279), fails to teach or suggest an apparatus comprising a first switch operating in response to said first switching signal, said operating of said first switch activating a first head to record first data onto a medium; and a second switch operating in response to said second switching signal, said operating of said second switch activating a second head to reproduce second data from the medium during said recording of said first data, said second data corresponding to said first data recorded on the medium, said second data reproduced from said medium being substantially identical to said first data recorded onto said medium when abnormalities are not present.

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3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Natalia Figueroa whose telephone number is (571) 272-7554. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David R. Hudspeth can be reached on (571) 272-7843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


NFM


DAVID HUDSPETH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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